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ESSEX NEWARK DISTRICT COUNCIL
of the
Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women

MOST REVEREND THOMAS A. BOLAND, S.T.D.

ARCHBISHOP OF NEWARK

VERY REV. MSGR. FRANCIS J. HOUGHTON, MODERATOR



106 So Harrison St.
East Orange, N.J. 07018

February 6, 1968

Mr Tom Mackin
To Newark Evening News
Newark, N.J. 07102

Dear Mr Mackin:

In your column tonight, noticed under the caption "Response" that CBS may grant "equal time" to respond to their very one-sided view of Newark -- all of which was dismal to say the least. You may be interested in the points of protest & suggestions made in our letter of February 1st. We feel that CBS has done Newark a great disservice and certainly hope something is done to right this wrong!

Sincerely,

Catherine M. Collamore Pres.
Essex Newark District Council

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ESSEX-NEWARK DISTRICT COUNCIL
of the
ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

106 So. Harrison St.,
East Orange, N.J. 07018

February 1, 1968

Dr. Frank Stanton, President
Columbia Broadcasting System (WCBS-TV)
51 West 52nd Street
New York, New York 10019

Dear Doctor Stanton:

The Executive Board of the Essex-Newark District Council of the Archdiocese and National Councils of Catholic Women protests strongly the WCBS-Television series "Newark Revisited". Since our Council represents the Roman Catholic women of Newark and the nearby areas, we feel that we understand the problems of Newark. We question the type of research that was conducted for this series. Research is the cold, unbiased study of all facets of a problem. The series presented but one side --- an infinitesimal segment of a study of Newark. May we present the following points:

HOUSING - Only houses that were built many years ago were shown. Newark has had a splendid record of low rental apartments - whole areas are given over to these units. Albeit high-rise apartments are sociologically not the ultimate in dwellings, but with urban land so scarce, they do meet the needs in large cities. No mention was made of these units, or the \$18,000,000 Housing Plan projected by the Mt. Carmel Guild of the Newark Archdiocese. This plan is for condominiums with very easy payment terms. If any group has been neglected it is the middle-income group upon whose shoulders high taxes, steep rentals form a heavy burden.

SCHOOLS - Your spotlight was focused upon the cornerstone of a very old school. Where were pictures of the beautiful new school to be opened soon on South Eleventh Street? of Barringer High School (an architect's dream)? of our several new Junior High Schools?

Did research slip up here? Why did research fail to study the new plan for educating the young unwed mothers? How many other cities are meeting this unfortunate problem?

Pictures were shown of youngsters being transported to various schools because the neighborhood school was crowded. The explanation, however, that was omitted is necessary to understand the reason for this. The population of Newark is so mobile that in a single year one school can have empty seats while others are crowded, and in another short time the reverse occurs. In some schools during one month, so many pupils transfer that whole classes are altered. Plans are carefully prepared in June for September and during the Summer 300-400 families will move - thus overcrowding other schools.

No mention was made in the research of the money spent each year (estimated over \$1,000,000) to educate youngsters who come to Newark from other States to live with friends or guardians but whose parents reside in a different section of our Country. The States where these youngsters should legally reside with their parents surely must enjoy the freedom from the expense of educating them while Newark's coffers are drained.

HEALTH - Research found that Newark is a 'disease filled city'. Where? How? Our Board of Health, our clinics surely were not studied. A cursory glance was all that was needed to learn the numbers treated free each day - receiving medical, dental and even psychiatric care.

BUSINESS - A picture of Springfield Avenue - a dismal one - and a few shots of some new office buildings were shown. No mention was made of the gigantic efforts of our leading businesses to employ our Newarkers - of the numerous programs conducted in the schools to place the students - part time, or full time after graduation in these industries.

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CULTURAL - The picture of the Museum door was shown. Was no research done on the splendid programs conducted by the Museum and the Library each day? Symphony Hall was forgotten, and yet thousands of our underprivileged youngsters enjoy the best concerts, ballets and various cultural programs there -- all free. The plan for the Performing Arts Center was omitted, and yet it will be there that youngsters will be given music lessons and even the instruments. The Newark Art School is a center for talented students - free. Did you skip it?

Research for your "Newark Revisited" series certainly failed to show the magnificent, hard, never-ending work being done by the various religious leaders -- not only soul but body care. Credit unions have been set up (before the riots), reading clinics, units of Seminararians working with the youngsters, playgrounds established - the "Y" work - and the C.Y.O. work. Research should have discovered these.

These are just a minimal of the many points omitted in the survey. Your line, "Nothing has been done since the riots" was puzzling. What city can purchase land, move persons, erect buildings all in six months?

Newark has not died! Newark is working seriously and steadily to meet gigantic problems. Our Council feels that in justice to the residents of our City, you should conduct another survey -- we shall be glad to assist you -- and then, that you should give equal time on TV (also in conjunction with the two major newscasts) for a true presentation of the results.

Very truly yours,

(SIGNED) Catherine M. Cullimore

CATHERINE M. CULLIMORE
President

REGISTERED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED